

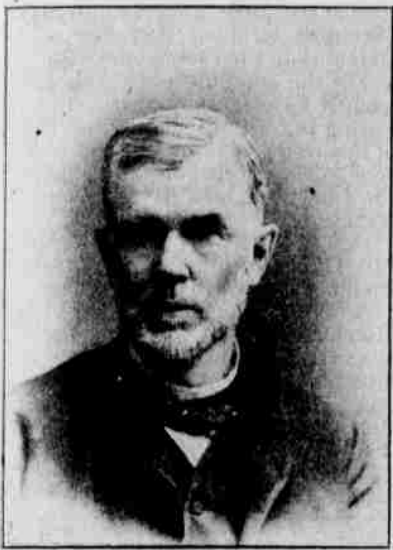
enterprise of the town. The Congregational church was repaired under his direction and care. He was prominent in the organization of the creamery and he served the town very acceptably for several years as selectman and overseer. Socially, Capt. Hall is one of the most genial of men and relates his varied experience with zest and wit.

John B. Bacon.

Deacon John B. Bacon is a connecting link of the past with the present generation, and for many years a familiar figure at Chelsea. Though his hair is silvered with the frosts of three-score and ten, he has the keen eyes, the erect form and the elastic step of youth.

His father, Lement Bacon, came to Chelsea in 1821 from Woodstock, Conn., and for nearly a decade kept the village hotel. It stood on the site of the Orange County hotel and was afterwards burned. John was one of a family of eight children, and his mother was Celia, daughter of John Butler. John Butler, his maternal grandfather, was a lieutenant in the regular army in 1814 and saw sharp service on the western frontier.

John B. Bacon engaged as a clerk with Nathan G. Hale in 1844 and remained with him two years, and later clerked for two years in Boston. He notes some interesting changes in the course of trade during the half-century. Sale footings and frocking were the principal sources of pin money with the women folks, while cheese, poultry, pot ashes and pearl ashes were relied on to keep the cash balance right. The merchants in '44 used to employ the farmers during the winter to draw butter produce to Boston, and to return with groceries. They also brought back fresh fish that they exchanged in Canada for herdgrass seed.



In 1848 Mr. Bacon opened a general country store at Chelsea, and the cars had then got to Concord, N. H. He paid 9 cents per hundred pounds from there to Chelsea. He remained in trade at the old stand 38 years, and during about one-third of the time had successfully as partners, Alden Speare, J. Dana Bacon, his brother, and W. P. Townsend. While in company with his brother in 1855, Mr. Bacon made a trip of observation to the West Indies on board the schooner Flash, a submarine diving expedition. He stopped at Turks Island and saw the process of making salt. The water of the ocean is let in by dikes on what are called salt pans, basins of hard ground, and the hot trade winds evaporate the water and the salt is raked into heaps by the darkies. There is no vegetation and filtered rain water is used for drinking water.

Mr. Bacon married Sarah P., daughter of Mary H. and Persis A. Morey, in 1858. Three children were born to them, Sarah F., who died in infancy, John Lement, a graduate of St. Johnsbury academy, organizer and cashier of the National bank at White River Junction, and Mary Sigourney, who died at the age of seventeen.

Mrs. Bacon died in 1893. She was a lady of fine musical talent and for many years was organist of the Cong'l church. Mr. Bacon was chorister of this choir 35 years, has been a member of the Cong'l church 53 years and has been one of its deacons during 15 to 20 years. He was a director of the Orange County National bank, was vice president and president of the First National bank and is vice president of the National bank of Orange county.

He was first selectman in '60, '61 and '62 and enrolling officer of the town. He was town treasurer from 1861 to '95, 4 years of continuous service, and was county treasurer two years. He served three years as postmaster under President Fillmore as a Whig, and nineteen years as a Republican, preceding Cleveland's first administration. In September, 1894, he was the recipient of legislative honors, and the same month wedded S. Ada, only daughter of Capt. W. H. H. Hall, his early friend. She is a lady of rare culture and accomplishments.

May his last days be his best days, is the wish of this community.

Willis Seales.

Willis Seales is the original Yankee of the town. He was born in Washington in 1848, one of the seven children of Charles Seales, all of whom are living. He found his mission in life in this wise, when he was 13 years old. He found a sad old lady wearing a pair of tight shoes, which he bought off her feet at a handsome discount, and sold them to another old lady at a handsome advance. Both of the old ladies were made happy and so was Willis, who realized a net profit of 25 cents on the operation, and his sphere of future usefulness. At 20 years of age he mounted a tin peddler's cart, sold off his stock in ten days, and took a commercial course at the same time. He followed the tin peddler's business very successfully one year, and had engaged for the second, when his mother died and he was compelled to return to his home. He demonstrated that a modern Yankee is at least twelve times as smart as an ancient Jew. Jacob, who was not accounted slow for his time, obtained the hand of Rachel in marriage after seven years' service. Willis Seales obtained the hand of Ellen M. Douglass, really

ly seven months with her father, Edward Douglass. The service came later, for Mr. Seales worked for him for thirteen successive seasons, and meanwhile during eight winters taught nine terms of school.

Caleb and Dea. Ivory Douglass came to Chelsea in 1789. Caleb reared a family of ten children, all but one of whom lived to be 70 years old. Eight of the children met at the home of Edward Douglass and their combined age was more than 600 years. It is a sad reflection that not one male descendant is living that bears the name of Douglass. Edward Douglass built the excellent block of farm buildings and was a noted breeder of Durham cattle, Chester swine and Merino sheep. He died in 1890, highly esteemed, at the advanced age of 86 years. Mr. Seales bought the farm in 1881. He is progressive, and has changed from the beefy Durham to the creamy Jersey. He has thoroughbred and registered English Berkshire swine, obtained of C. I. Hood, probably the only ones in this section, and they are beauties.

Mr. Seales has been engaged in the sale of agricultural machinery for about 15 years. He began in a small way, but now handles plows, harrows, cultivators, weedeaters, mowing machines and sugar and dairy implements. He puts them on trial. He is not now dealing in leather goods. He is a Republican in politics, Congregationalist in theology and a "good fellow" in society. He is affiliated with George Washington lodge. His only child is Mary Ellen, 13 years of age.

Mr. Seales believes that the times require the application of business principles to farming and acts on that belief.

Concerning Photography.

Some one has reckoned this art as an unexplainable surge-magical process, a transferring to plate or paper of an infinitely thin film from the face of the subject.

Ridiculous as this conceit is, it might be accepted by some as readily as any other theory that is offered, and would not seem a greater marvel than some of the real achievements of the modern electrical wizards. The wonder point of the art is the catching, on the sensitive film, of the sharp image formed by the lenses of the camera. After the exposure of the plate to the image, the film does not show the slightest change, but the different gradations of light in the image have caused certain modifications in the constitution of the film, varying according to the force of light each one carries, and when the plate comes in contact with certain chemicals in solution these gradations are made visible, and a negative is born. It is supposed that the action of the light on the silver salts of the coating is the first step toward the oxidation of the silver, and the development—usually pyrogallol acid and its salts—completes the operation. In making the emulsion for coating the plates, iodide and bromide of potassium are dissolved in water and mixed with a solution of nitrate of silver. The domestic tranquility of the two families of the so-called inanimate elements is at once upset. Nitric acid, possessing great force and being utterly destitute of principle and having a stronger liking for potassium than for silver, leaves the latter and proceeds to drive out iodine and bromine from their combinations with potassium, forming a new soluble salt—nitrate of potash, which is washed out and thrown away during the process—a fit punishment for their unfaithfulness to their former mates; while the iodine and bromine and silver, being forsaken by their partners, form a new partnership—iodide and bromide of silver—the base of the lightening plates, thus achieving the highest honors. A body is given to these salts by mixing with pure white gelatine. The salts are insoluble, but in a state of very fine division, forming a milky white liquid when mixed with gelatine and water. The plates are coated with the mixture and dried. These operations are carried on in the dark or in a weak, ruby light. This is only an outline of the procedure. There are critical stages in the process, requiring the greatest care, such as only those who have had a course in experimental chemistry would be likely to practice.

There are several companies in this country engaged in making the plates and their combination serves to keep prices far above the fair profit standard. Many photographers have attempted their manufacture but have given it up for lack of success. H. L. Bixby, the Chelsea photographer, was lucky enough to notice a new process by an English amateur (of the class that has studied out and perfected the dry plate idea). He tried the plan, and after some necessary changes in the formula, he made a success of it and has used only his own plates since then. Their cost is only one-fifth that of the commercial plates, and this is one secret of his low prices, though his large range and low rents are important aids. As to the causes of his success as a photographer there are certain vital points, learned by long experience, that he does not propose to make common property at present. While he is conscious that he cannot please all (and there are some he cannot afford to please, as he works for the pay) yet his success, especially during the last hard-times year, has been very gratifying. His price list is a popular one, not one in a hundred complaining of it. He uses the best collodion paper, costing twice as much and being far more durable than some other kinds in common use.

He has a most excellent class of patrons. His confidence in human honesty is sometimes badly shaken by encounters with members of the sponge family—often draped in silk and broadcloth—but his balance is quickly restored by the recollections of the largely prevailing devotion to live honor among his customers. He is at Chelsea village Thursdays and Saturdays; at South Royalton, Tuesdays at 10:30 a. m.; at Brookfield—Pond village—Wednesdays at 11 a. m.; and at home on Chelsea West Hill on Mondays and Fridays, which are his printing days, and usually very busy ones. A large fraction of his orders are from old negatives, which number nearly thirteen thousand. He is said to be the best of all as well as the honestest

man in town, and he can tell very nearly every New Year's day where he will be each hour of the coming year.

That model of maiden diffidence, the special editor of this special edition of the HERALD, blushing, hints at possible public services that it might be proper for Mr. Bixby to speak of, but as he also possesses something, though a small per cent, of that excellent quality, he dislikes to "exaggerate" on any such possible may-have-beens; if such acts there be, and if they cannot speak for themselves, let them rest in deserved oblivion.

1800.

The "Old Blake Store" building, erected in 1818 by Amos Blake, has been occupied as a drug store by Amos R. Hood & Son since 1872.

The business was established by A. R. Hood in a small way in 1830, a portion of the present residence of William F. Hood being used as a store. Mr. Hood, the elder, conducted the business alone until 1866, when his oldest son, William F., became his partner. The latter gentleman had thoroughly learned the pharmacist's art in Lowell, and was well qualified to gradually assume control of the business, which the increasing age of his father required him to do.

Amos R. Hood died in 1881, after an honorable business career of over fifty years in his native town. He was a man highly respected by all with whom he came in contact. Since Mr. Hood's death the business has been successfully conducted by his son. The old firm name of A. R. Hood & Son is still retained and the house is widely and favorably known throughout this section.

Charles I. Hood of Lowell, youngest son of A. R. Hood, is without doubt one of the best-known men in this country in civil life. He is a native of Chelsea and was educated in the schools of this town. His business education was also commenced here in his father's store, where he obtained a good general understanding of the business he afterwards mastered in detail. At the age of 14, Mr. Hood went to Lowell, and after being employed in a pharmacy there for five years went to Boston, entering the employ of the old and reliable firm of T. Metcalf & Co. He remained with this house five years and by close application to business acquired the reputation of being an expert pharmacist.

In 1870, Mr. Hood embarked in business for himself, selecting Lowell as his location. With a partner, he opened a drug store, adopting the name of C. I. Hood & Co. In 1875, the young druggist began to put up the famous compound known as Hood's Sarsaparilla. This preparation soon came into great favor with the public and in 1878 the demand for it became so great that it was found necessary to fit up a laboratory in which to compound it. The next year still larger quarters were found necessary, and in 1883, a four-story brick block, 60x100 feet, was erected on Thorneike street. In a few years an addition larger than the original building was constructed and several extensive additions have since been made, until Mr. Hood now has the largest laboratory in the world devoted to the manufacture of proprietary medicines.

The limits of this article do not admit of anything more than a passing glance at the vast business of which Mr. Hood is at the head. In addition to Hood's Sarsaparilla, the house also manufactures Hood's Vegetable Pills, Hood's Olive Ointment and Hood's Tooth Powder. We doubt if there is a business in the world conducted upon more systematic principles than Mr. Hood's. Of course, Mr. Hood can have very little to do with the details, which he entrusts to heads of the various departments, but it is said that he can tell just how his business stands at the close of each day.

Mr. Hood is well known throughout the country as the proprietor of the Hood Farm, which is located about three miles from the city. A visit to this farm and an inspection of the valuable stock kept and bred on it, is a treat of which many Chelsea people have availed themselves. Personally, Mr. Hood is the most unassuming and approachable of men. He retains an active interest in his native town and its people, and his visits here, while not so frequent as we could wish, are a source of much pleasure to his old friends.

Dearborn.

Capt. Wilder Dearborn was born in Chelsea, N. H., in 1791, and came to Chelsea with his parents in 1800. He married Persis Hamilton in 1820 and they brought up a family of three sons and four daughters. He was a captain of the Chelsea infantry.

Dea. Franklin Dearborn was born on the home farm in 1829 and has resided there all of his life. In 1859 he married Sylvia Folsom, and they reared a family of one son and three daughters, viz.: Frank H., Persis S. (Mrs. John M. Comstock), Minnie L. and Hattie M. Dearborn. Mr. Dearborn is a valued citizen, has served acceptably as selectman and has been deacon of the Congregational church nearly 25 years.

Hamilton W. Dearborn was born on the old Dearborn homestead in 1834.

When he was 19 years of age he went to the village and learned the carpenter and joiner trade of Thomas Godfrey and at the same time learned to love his daughter, Olivia, who became Mrs. Dearborn in 1860. He worked at his trade much of the time during 25 years and helped to build many houses in this town and vicinity. He put in a line of furniture, coffins and caskets some twelve years since and is now the principal undertaker in town. He carries a stock of lime and cement, paints and oils, sash, blinds, doors and builders' supplies. Their children are Nellie A. (Mrs. Elisha Burgess), Calvin N., who married Bertha Reed and is a carpenter and joiner in town, Edith S., Thomas G., a liveryman, and Wilder H. Dearborn.

Mr. and Mrs. Dearborn are fervent Methodists and sang in the church choir nearly forty years. Mr. Dearborn being chorister. The first instrumental music in this church was rendered by Asa Goodwin, who played the bass viol, and John Wyman, flutist.

"Who can describe their music and their choir, Or tell how power to fan devotion's fire? Long rows of singers in the gallery high, Pined off by curtains from the vulgar eye, First alto and soprano in the middle, Supported in the rear by viol and fiddle."

Mr. Dearborn was superintendent of the M. E. Sabbath school for 28 consecutive years and has been steward nearly half that time. Mrs. Dearborn has been president of the Ladies' Benevolent society.

Thomas G. Dearborn was born in Chelsea in 1872. At 18 years of age he entered the store of Townsend & Dickinson and there remained a year and a half. He leased the Chelsea livery in 1893 for a year. Then he leased the Cleveland barn adjoining and put in four teams and later added two more. He purchased new equipments throughout, and keeps harnesses and carriages neat and clean. He is prepared to carry traveling men and others, with or without a driver, at reasonable rates. He reports the last season the best he has had since he started business here, due in part to the unusual number of summer visitors.

Tom Moore's Fish and Game Story.

The following adventure was told by Thomas Moore, the first pioneer:

"I was going on foot to Winchester, N. H., once upon a time and when I reached a spot on the Connecticut river where I had been accustomed to cross on a ferryboat, I found that the boat had been carried away by a freshet. Not being much of a swimmer, I undertook to ford the river. I fearlessly waded in, carrying a gun loaded with powder and a ball in my hand. I soon found my head under the water, meanwhile rushing and roaring over me, but nothing daunted, I continued to wade until I reached the opposite bank. My legs had become so heavy that it was with the utmost difficulty that I could pull myself ashore. When I was fairly landed I took off my clothes and found that I had some twenty or thirty pounds of fresh shad in my trousers and clinging to my boots. I climbed up a peeled poplar tree, on which I hung my clothes to dry. Looking around me, I discovered a haystack in the field, with a fence around it. On the topmost rail of that fence sat a row of quails. I immediately set my wits at work to know how to kill all those quails at one shot, having but one charge of powder and shot with me, which I had preserved dry by corking it in the muzzle. I finally ran my gun under a rack and bent it to a curve, crawled on my hands and knees as near to the stack of hay as I dared, pointed the gun's muzzle at the nearest quail and whiz! went the ball, hitting the first quail and knocking every bird clean off the fence and laying them dead on the ground. But I found the ball coming after me for I was close by the fence when I fired. I ran like a whitehead round the stack, the ball continuing after me, and seeing it gaining on me, I caught up a slab and turned it off. Thus I secured a rich harvest of shad and quails."

Dr. Sebree Gustin.

Sebree Gustin, Sr., came to Chelsea late in the last century.

His son, Dr. Sebree Gustin, was born in Chelsea in 1808. He engaged for a time in the hardware business. He was a pioneer dentist, probably the earliest in this section of the state, and was second to no other, keeping abreast of the times. He had an office at Chelsea and branch offices at Thetford and Wells River. He followed the profession thirty-seven years and was widely known through the center of the state. He married Lorinda, granddaughter of Dea. Samuel Lincoln, first deacon of the Cong'l church. The children were Fanny, wife of Dr. Nathan G. Hale, Dr. Walter Gustin, a physician, resident at Stratford, Vt., and Sarah, now living in the old family mansion at Chelsea. Sebree Gustin died in 1883.

Eccentric Character.

Anariah Bohonon, a cousin of Daniel Webster, was a remarkable and ready wit. Tom Emerson, as the once rich president of the old Windsor State bank was familiarly called, once accosted him thus: "Maj. Niah, don't you wish you were Tom Emerson?" "Ugh!" replied Bohonon. "It's bad enough to be myself." On another occasion Emerson asked him why he talked to himself so much. "Two reasons," replied Bohonon. "I like to talk to a sensible man, and I like to hear a sensible man talk."

Business Sketch.

J. Frank Hemenway is a well-known breeder of bronze turkeys and thoroughbred Jerseys. The head of his herd, Harry Khedive, is from one of the best strains of the noted herd of C. I. Hood. He has for many years been a successful breeder of turkeys which he has shipped to all parts of the country.

A Cure for Slender.

In Poland it was once the custom to sentence all backbiters to go on all fours and bark like a dog for the space of a quarter of an hour. This mode of punishment was introduced during the reign of Charles V., but it was soon abolished, as it had to be applied so frequently that his majesty's rest was disturbed, for the barking went on all the forenoon while the courts were sitting.

BIXBY'S CHRISTMAS ANNOUNCEMENT.

We have a larger assortment of Xmas Novelties this season than ever before in Celluloid, Aluminum and Stationery Goods, just received from the Boston and New York markets, which are sure to please, including the prices.

STATIONERY DEPT. Everything to be thought of in the new tints so stylish this season, and the entirely new shapes in Celluloid Boxes, which must be seen to be appreciated. We can show over 60 varieties of Box Papererie.

BOOK DEPT. We have Illustrated Gift Books, Children's Books, shapes and sizes, also "The Standard" Diaries for 1896.

PEN AND INK DEPT. Eight (8) different makes of pearl handles, (very dainty), Fancy Ink Wells, Pen Holders, Pen Wipers, Blotters, etc.

NOVELTY DEPT. Ash Trays, Pin Trays, Match Boxes, Jewel Caskets, Glove and Handkerchief Boxes, Book Marks, Salt and Pepper Sets, Celluloid Novelties in variety and other things too numerous to mention.

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That we take subscriptions for *all* Newspapers and Magazines.
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